

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 29, 2011*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during five rollcall votes taken on Thursday, March 17.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcalls 189, 190, and 192, and "no" on rollcalls 191 and 193.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HIS EXCELLENCE LE CONG PHUNG, AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 29, 2011*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of my good friend, His Excellency Le Cong Phung, who in October 2007 was appointed by President Nguyen Minh Triet as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United States of America.

Prior to his appointment, the Honorable Le Cong Phung served as the First Deputy Foreign Minister, the second-highest ranking official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during which time he assisted the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister regarding Vietnam's foreign policy.

From 2001–2004, he served as Deputy Foreign Minister and as the Assistant Foreign Minister from 1999–2000. During his 39-year career, Ambassador Le Cong Phung served in foreign posts in England, China, and Indonesia. He was also Vietnam's Ambassador to Thailand.

While in Washington, Ambassador Phung became a key figure in strengthening the U.S.-Vietnam partnership. At the Ambassador's request, it was my privilege to join him, former President Bill Clinton, Senator JOHN KERRY, Senator JOHN MCCAIN and Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell in offering keynote remarks on July 14, 2010 as Vietnam celebrated 15 years of diplomatic relations with the United States.

With the support of Ambassador Phung and in my capacity as the newly elected Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, I returned to Vietnam in 2007 for the first time in 40 years, having previously served at the height of the Tet Offensive in 1967. The visit changed me.

On May 15, 2008, in close cooperation with Ambassador Phung, I held a Subcommittee hearing entitled, "Our Forgotten Responsibility? What Can We Do to Help Victims of Agent Orange?" This was the first time in the history of the U.S. Congress that a hearing had been held on Agent Orange which included our Vietnamese counterparts as witnesses. Two more hearings followed on June 4, 2009 and July 15, 2010, paving the way for

renewed commitment on the part of the U.S. to clean up the mess it left behind.

I am proud of Ambassador Phung and what we have accomplished together. Ambassador Phung has made an indelible mark on furthering U.S.-Vietnam relations and is to be commended for his exemplary service for and on behalf of the government of Vietnam. I am also appreciative of all he has done to promote religious freedom.

On a personal note, I will miss Ambassador Phung, and I extend to him, his wife, Nguyen Thi Nhan, and their two sons my highest regards and well wishes in all their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING COACH NATALIE RANDOLPH

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 29, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Coach Natalie Randolph, the first female boys varsity head football coach at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School in Washington, DC, where she also teaches.

As we commemorate Women's History Month this year, I want to celebrate the coach for becoming the first permanent female boys varsity head football coach in the District of Columbia and the only current female boys varsity head football coach in the nation.

Natalie Randolph, a native Washingtonian, is not only a football coach, she also is a superb athlete. Coach Randolph made her mark with the DC Divas of the Independent Women's Football League. After playing five seasons there, she became an assistant boys varsity football coach at H.D. Woodson Senior High School in the District for two seasons.

In her youth, Natalie nurtured her athletic skills in track and field at Sidwell Friends School and later at the University of Virginia. Her love of football grew after her father first introduced her in high school to women football players.

Natalie began her professional career as an educator, after receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Science and a Master's degree in Education from the University of Virginia. She first taught at H.D. Woodson and currently teaches Environmental Science and Biology at Calvin Coolidge.

Calvin Coolidge's winning record of 6–4 in Coach Randolph's debut season vindicated the decision to make her head coach. At the same time, the new coach required mandatory study halls and SAT prep courses to improve the team's academic performance. Coach Randolph is committed to winning, both inside and outside the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Natalie Randolph for her accomplishments as a teacher who encourages strong academic achievement, as a world-class athlete, and as the first permanent female boys varsity head football coach in the District of Columbia. May we wish Coach Randolph and the Calvin Coolidge Senior High School Colts the best on the upcoming season, both on and off the field.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTH ANNUAL CESAR CHAVEZ MARCH

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 29, 2011*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 24th anniversary of the naming of Chavez Drive and the fifth annual Cesar Chavez March in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. A celebration and fundraiser for the United Farm Workers members was held on March 26th to coincide with what would have been the late Cesar Chavez's 84th birthday.

Born on a family farm, March 31, 1927, Cesar Chavez witnessed firsthand the suffering of migrant workers. When the family lost the farm during the Great Depression, Cesar toiled in the fields following crops across the Southwest. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II he returned to farm work and began his lifelong commitment to justice for migrant workers.

During the 1960s Cesar Chavez, in reaction to the conditions he witnessed in the fields, became a union activist. Adopting the techniques of industrial unions like the UAW, Cesar fought against agribusiness and unfair laws that forbade farm workers from organizing. A nationwide boycott of table grapes and a 25-day hunger strike brought the United Farm Workers international attention. His leadership and personal commitment forced agribusiness to sign the first union contract with the United Farm Workers. He labored to improve the health and safety of the workers. He fought successfully to end the use of harmful chemicals like DDT and benefited not only the workers but the consumers as well.

When Cesar Chavez died in 1993, over 40,000 people attended his funeral. In a show of respect for the man who had changed so many lives, our nation posthumously awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, Flint Michigan was the first community in our nation to honor this great humanitarian by naming a street after Cesar Chavez. I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the memory of Cesar Chavez and his legacy to the American people.

IN HONOR OF DONNA PAINTER

**HON. JOE BARTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 29, 2011*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna Painter for her dedication and contributions to nephrology nursing and kidney patients in Texas and across the country.

Donna is one of my constituents from Corsicana, Texas and she served as President of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association (ANNA) in 2010 and 2011.

Donna earned her Masters of Science in Health Care Administration from Texas Women's University in Dallas, Texas. She is a Registered Nurse and a Certified Nephrology Nurse.

Donna has worked for Fresenius Medical Care in various positions since 1983. Over the course of her career, she has served as a